

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

City of Dumas

ORIGINAL

Clay Oldner
Mayor

Jennifer Bonds
Clerk-Treasurer

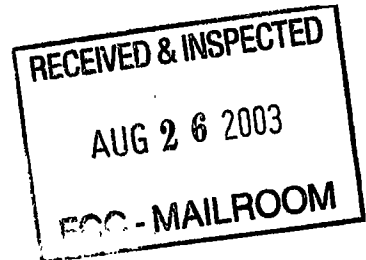
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August 13, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554



Re: In The Matter Of improving public Safety Communications In the 800 MHz Band;
WT Docket No.02-55 (Ex Parte)

Dear Madam Secretary:

The City of Dumas is writing to express its opposition to Nextel's so-called "Consensus Plan" and urge the FCC to adopt the "Balanced Approach," which was filed on May 29, 2003. As discussed below in greater detail, we believe that the Consensus Plan will unnecessarily jeopardize Public Safety communication systems. Instead, the FCC should adopt a solution, such as the Balanced Approach, that does not require Public Safety licenses to relocate and does not reduce their interference protection.

The City of Dumas has licensed an 800 MHz communications system, which is used by our Police Departments. The communications system supports a number of Dumas's activities including communications between our EMS, Police and Fire Department as well as communication with utilities.

Also, Public Safety licensees could be subject to more interference because the Consensus Plan protects Public Safety licensees only if they meet certain signal strength and receiver requirements. Because most Public Safety communication systems do not meet these requirements, they will have to expend significant resources to ensure that they are protected from interference. Further, the interference situation could be worse if rebanding is not completed before Nextel's funding runs out.

Therefore, the City of Dumas supports the Balanced Approach, which is superior to the Consensus Plan because it takes pro-active steps to immediately deal with Public Safety interference by relying on technical solutions and increased enforcement. As a result, this proposal is less disruptive and less expensive than the Consensus Plan so Public Safety communications will not be jeopardized. For all the reasons stated above, The City of Dumas urges the FCC to adopt the Balanced Approach.

Cordially yours,

Clay Oldner
City of Dumas Mayor

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